

ABSTRACT

Title: First-Generation Student Support Program

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The purpose of this creative project was to create an extended orientation program, summer workshop series, and mentor program for first-generation college students and their parents. The goal of the program was to better prepare the students and their families before the semester begins and to continue to support the student's transition during their first year by providing them the resources needed to be successful. The extended orientation and workshop series was designed to help students and their families address the common challenges many first-generation students face by providing opportunities to interact with faculty and introducing them to valuable campus resources such as the Financial Aid Office, Academic Advising, and the Career Center. The mentorship program will begin during the first semester and extend through the remainder of the academic year. The mentorship program will allow the students to connect with new first-generation students and also the opportunity to connect with current first-generation students who have been successful. The mentorship program is designed to incorporate several social events and activities to help the students become invested in the campus culture and their success as a student.